

39, 40, 41, 42, 47, 52, 55, 57, 59 and 61. The independent claims have been amended.

In the Official Action dated March 28, 2000, Claims 1-55 and 57-62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,764,368 (Shibaki, et al.). Claim 56 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shibaki, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,901,278 (Kurihara, et al.). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

With respect to independent Claim 1, the present invention relates to a memory medium for use with a memory medium reading device, the memory medium storing image data for a plurality of images and image reproduction instruction data specifying whether or not certain of the image data is to be output for being selectively reproduced in response to the memory medium reading device reading the image reproduction instruction data.

The remaining independent claims similarly relate to an apparatus, method or memory medium for storing image data representing a plurality of images and for storing image-reproduction instruction data, or an image output program, indicating whether or not certain of the image data is to be output for being reproduced.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The Shibaki, et al. patent relates to an image processing apparatus using retrieval sheets capable of recording additional retrieval information. However, Applicant submits that the Shibaki, et al. patent fails to disclose or suggest an apparatus, method, or memory medium for storing image data for a plurality of images and image-reproduction instruction data, or any image output program, indicating whether or not certain of the image data is to be output for being selectively reproduced in response to the memory medium reading device reading the image-reproduction instruction data.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is respectfully requested. For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claims 1, 6-8, 11, 15, 21, 39, 40-42, 47, 52, 55, 57, 59 and 61 are allowable over the cited art. The dependent claims depend from one or another of the independent claims and are believed allowable for the same reasons. Moreover, each of these dependent claims recites additional features in combination with

the features of its respective base claim and is believed allowable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims respectfully is requested.

Applicant requests that the present Amendment After Final Rejection be entered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Applicant submits that the present amendments reduce the number of issues for consideration and place the claims in condition for allowance. Applicant believes the present amendments were necessitated by the Examiner's comments in the Official Action and were not previously presented because Applicant believed the prior claims were allowable.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment After Final Rejection is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the present application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All

correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.



Respectfully submitted,

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